WHOLE NUMBER, 19,664.

RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1914.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

# BATTLE IS RAGING, AND MEXICO'S FATE HANGS IN BALANCE

General Villa Begins His Attack on Torreon.

# EARLY FIGHTING IS IN HIS FAVOR

Rebel Leader Is Jubilant, and Expects Federal Defense to Crumble Before Him-General Advance Is Preceded by Furious Cannonading of Outposts.

# Capture of Torreon Is Matter of Hours

El Verjil, Mexico, March 23—10
P. M.—Gomez Polacio was occupied
by the Constitutionalists at 9 o'clock
to-night. Three hundred prisoners
were taken. The loss of life among
the Federals was tremendous, but
fligures are not yet available.
With Lerdo and Gomez Palacio
under Constitutionalist control, the
capture of Torreon can be but a
question of a few hours.
A special train carrying Constitutionalist wounded was dispatched to
Chihuahua to-night.

El Verill, Durango, Mex., March 23 .-o real attack on Torreon began to-y, when General Villa occupied rio Peri without resistance, and at o'clock began an attack on Gomez lacio. The three towns are prac-ally one in a commercial and social use, and are connected by four miles of street railway, but Torreon is the stronghold proper. Gomez Palacie and Lerde are with-

important natural defenses, and in previous revolutions never have been seriously defended. The real test of strength is expected to come soon,

e action was preceded by a furi-amonading directed at the Fed-batteries with their infantry sup-on the mountain slopes. When officers with field glasses ob-d that the Federals were shift-lier positions their superior ir positions, their own infantry in motion across the plains in

RICHMOND FAVORED

Washington Believes This City Will

[Speedal to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, D. C., March 23.—It is generally expected that the Federal reserve organization committee, within the next two or three days, will name the Federal reserve edities, and it is the general belief here that Richmond will be one of those named.

Every possible means is being used to keef the committee's decision a perfect secret, and it is intended to make the committee's plans public to all concerned at the same time. Efforts of newspaper men and bankers to learn as much as one of the proposed reserve eitles have met with rebuffs from the members of the committee.

At the request of Congressman Carter Glass, Senator Owen recently had a personal interview with both Secretary Houston and Secretary McAdoo, members of the committee.

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At the calculation of the consider the claims of Richmond for a regional reserve bank.

VIRGINIA CONTESTS PLEA

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Brief Filed Objecting to Reopening of Debt Case.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Washington, D. C., March 22.—Atterney-General Lilly, on behalf of the State of West Virginia, to-day filed a supplemental answer with the United States Supreme Court which asks the court to reopen the entire West Virginia-Virginia debt case because of the recent finding of the West Virginia commission of alleged assets which, if credited proportionately to the younger State, would make a considerable "set off" to the amount which the Supreme Court declared should be paid to the Old Domintan.

The brief, presented in printed pamphlet form, sums up the claims made by West Virginia for "set offs" similar to that presented to the Virginia commission at the time the last meeting was held in Washington based. meeting was held in Washington last month, and contains practically nothing that was not set forth at that time. It also includes exhibits in printed form of the claims of West Virginia out forward at that time. Virginia's reply, la which it stated the "set offs" could not be considered, and other communications.

Attorney-General John Garland Pollard and Handolph Harrison, acting as associate counsel, filed a brief objecting to the reopening of the case. Mr. Potlard said the question had been litigated eight years and should be settled speedily.

G. H. M.

# ANOTHER WARRANT ISSUED

Chapman Wanted in Connection With Mysterious Murder.
Callioun, Ga., March 23.—A warrant was issued to-day for the arrest of possible. Otherwise, the position is that the defending force could be that the defending force could be toff by a superior army.

The advance on Gomez Palacio benefits from this point, which is only two three miles from Gomez Palacio.

DOWN FIRE ESCAPE

# DOWN FIRE ESCAPE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
(Chicago, March 23.—The exciting that of three-year-old Virginia For-

# WILSON IS IN LINE WILL BE NAMED TO SUCCEED GRONER

Petersburg Man Choice He Points to Recorded of McReynolds for Dis-

# THOMAS BURCH

Marshal to Be Moved to Richmond From Norfolk-Byrd to Move Office to Roanoke-Hot Fight on Hart.

the administration not to discharge the Republicans just to make places for Democrats would result in Mr. Groner serving his four years, regardless of the fact that he is really serving out

# R. Tate Irvine as Congressman.

# WITH HIS PARTY IN SEEKING REPEAL

Vote of Democrats in House.

# HOMAS BURCH ONLY COALITION WINS AS MARSHAL PUT LAW ON BOOKS

Offices of District Attorney and Tolls Exemption Made Possible by Union of Democratic Minority With Number of Republicans-President Makes No Secret of His Anxiety for Vote.

ministration circles as the President's answer to the argument that the Bal-timore platform made the tolls exemp-tion Democratic doctrine. The President is understood to believe that the majority opinion of the Democrats in the House as last expressed was a result of more deliberate consideration of the question than was possible at the Ealtimore convention.

Anxious for Vote.

The President made no secret to

prolong debate unnecessarily, Mr. Wilson said he didn't know, but it certainly appeared to him as if there had been
filibustering; that minorities always
alloustered and disclosed themselves in
filibusters. The President is confident
that he will have the majority of his
party behind him in the House when
the repeal comes to a vote. He has
been assured that at least 200 Democrats will support him and many Re
publicans. Senator James, of Kentucky, has informed the President the
vote in the Senate will be at least 58 to

harbors bill is dragging along slowly with no prospect of immediate concen-

# "King" Carson, Leader of Ulsterites



# DIET PROROGUED, **NEWS OF COLONEL'S** CABINET DOOMED

Constitutional Government Is Anthony Fiala Wires That Roose-Believed to Be at Stake in Japan.

# in Accident. SITUATION BECOMES ACUTE WORD DIRECT FROM

Tokyo, March 23 .- The Japanese Diet was proround to-day by the Emperor owing to the inability of the House of ers and the House of Representatives

vote in the Senate will be at least 58 to 28 in favor of the repeal.

There seems little prospect to-night of setting the Sims repeal bill before the House until late in the week at the earliest. Debate on the rivers and harbors bill is dragging element.

Budget Not Passed, and Naval Believed That Specimens and Scientific Data Have gered.

Been Saved.

velt Was Not Injured

# NO ARMED FORCE \_ WILL BE SENT TO **COW ULSTERMEN**

Government Explains Irish Turmoil as Result of Misunderstanding.

# SIR ARTHUR PAGET MADE SCAPEGOAT

Defection of Army Closed Incident, and Officers Return to Posts, but Effects May Be Far-Reaching-Unionists Say Government Has Taken Part in Huge Fiasco, Its Plans Frustrated by Army-Just Now Ulster Seems Triumphant, and Fate of Home Rule Bill Is in

ferred, although they did not directly say so, was due to inisconstruction of the government's plans by the com-manding general, Sir Arthur Paget, whereby he informed the officers in Ireland that they were to move on Ul-

ster for a repressive campaign.

General Paget and three senior officers from the Curragh camp—General Gough, Colonel McEwan and Colonel Parker—were summoned to London for a conference. According to otheral statements, the misunderstanding has been cleared as a senior of the coloned for the coloned statements. been cleared away, and these officers are returned to Ireland. Prior to their return they said they were entirely

remain at their posts were not dis closed, but the general belief is that they were assured they would not be compelled to fight against the Ulste-men. This is considered a distinct surmen. This is considered a distinct surrender by the government. Lerd Morley expialned in the House of Lords significantly that he die not think, in the
interests of the efficiency of the army,
that all that transpired in the army
council should be made public, and that
the King approved the orders to the
officers to return.

The part the King played in the
crisis has not been disclosed. Army

officers addressed their resignations in the present instance should not be accepted, and used his influence with the Cabinet for a compromise with the

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COURT TAKES RECESS
AT 3:20 A. M. STATE THAT
THE POST-OFFICE AND
ING THE FLAMES.

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ING THE FLAMES.

THE FIRE AT DURHAM IS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OFFICE AND
OVER FIFTY FIRMS ARE
INCREDIBLE bargeround.

Continued on Third Page.

Continued